

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) An aquatic weed suppression means ~~consisting of~~ **comprising:**

a strip of plastic of width five or more feet **and**  
**having a specific gravity of one or less; and with**  
**a plurality of** transverse hold down means, either  
integral **with** or attached **to the strip of plastic, located**  
**longitudinally about every three feet running substantially**  
**the entire width of the strip of plastic and spaced between**  
**one and five feet apart.**

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously presented) An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 1 wherein the plastic is polyethylene.

4. (Original) An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 1 wherein the plastic is a tough material

capable of withstanding the abrasive action of active water and sharp rocks.

5. (Currently amended) An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 1 wherein the plurality of hold down means ~~is a~~ are transversely attached tubes filled with any of a variety of heavier than water materials.

6. (Currently amended) An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 1 wherein the plurality of hold down means ~~is~~ are composed of sand filled hot melt glue.

7. (Currently amended) An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 1 ~~wherein there are, further~~ comprising a plurality of gas release ports in the plastic sheets strip located ~~laterally from 1 to 4 feet apart and~~ longitudinally midway between the transverse hold down means, and spaced between one and four feet apart in the direction of the width of the plastic strip.

8. (Previously presented) An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 7 wherein the gas release ports are slits or small holes.

9. (Currently amended) An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 8 wherein the slits are about three inches long and positioned ~~longitudinally or at an angle to longitudinal~~ so as to be not substantially parallel to the width of the plastic strip.

10. (Currently amended) ~~An aquatic~~ A weed suppression means ~~in accordance with claim 1~~ for use in irrigation and drainage ditches utilizing, comprising:

a strip of plastic of width adequate to span the ditch and of length appropriate for ease of installation; and  
~~with multiple~~ a plurality of transverse, flexible,  
hollow plastic tubes attached along the width of the strip of plastic, spaced about every three feet and fill~~[[ed]]~~able with sand, cement, aggregate or other material adequate to hold the plastic strip in close proximity to the contour of the ditch.

11. (Currently amended) ~~An aquatic~~ A weed suppression means in accordance with claim 10 wherein the specific gravity of the plastic ~~sheets~~ strip is greater than 1.